



The Mexican Pet: More "New" Urban Legends and Some Old Favorites

By Jan Harold Brunvand

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"A uniquely entertaining book: edifying scholarship, diverting social history."?Elaine Kendall, *Los Angeles Times*

"[The book] captures the spirit of convivial storytelling and even encourages the activity. . . . Many readers . . . will be gratified to know that Brunvand intends to continue this series of relaxed, unofficial excursions into popular legends. Admirers of curiosa and the psychology of crowds cannot afford to miss them."
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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Brunvand's previous collections of urban legends (slightly fantastic stories that circulate in contemporary society), *The Vanishing Hitchhiker* and *The Choking Doberman*, have been extremely popular. This collection complements the earlier books and in fact contains, in part, new versions of stories presented in them. These stories, which are often accepted as true, reflect the concerns of modern life. Brunvand demonstrates their broad dissemination in both oral communication and popular culture. Most academic folklorists will not be satisfied with the lack of analysis here, but they, like other readers, will be highly entertained. David S. Azzolina, Univ. of Pennsylvania Libs., Philadelphia
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Review

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It is the charm of Mr. Brunvand's scholarship and presentation that he delivers the sad news of falsehood of these stories without being professorially reproachful toward those who have relayed him.

Together, these new wives' tales merge as an American picaresque, a compilation of myths that keep the telephone wires humming and cocktail parties doubly fueled.

About the Author

Jan Harold Brunvand lives in Salt Lake City, where he is professor emeritus at the University of Utah. He is the author of numerous books, including *The Vanishing Hitchhiker*; *The Choking Doberman*; *The Baby Train*; *Too Good to Be True*; and *Be Afraid, Be Very Afraid*.

Users Review

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